## LEVEE CONSTRUCTION FORCES CLOSURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PIERRE – Construction of flood protection levees along Pierre's Missouri River shoreline is forcing the closure of streets and recreational facilities. Mayor Laurie Gill said the closures may create some inconvenience, but are absolutely essential to constructing the levees safely and quickly.

Boat ramps at Downs Marina and the causeway will be closed until further notice. In addition, Island View Drive is closed to all traffic and no parking will be allowed on Sully Avenue between Madison and Harrison. Steamboat and Griffin parks were closed earlier this week as construction crews began working on the nearby levee.

Gill urged all residents to avoid the potentially affected areas unless absolutely necessary.

"We have heavy equipment and large trucks moving to and from these areas," Gill said. "Traffic congestion will slow their progress and ultimately slow construction of the levees. It also slows residents in these areas who are working to protect their homes and property. I know we are all wondering what is happening along the River, but we need to be considerate of those who are working against the clock."

Gill also urged residents with wooden pallets to drop them off at the Pierre landfill's baling facility near Pierre Indian Learning Center. Pallets are needed for transporting sandbags not only to private residences, but also to critical infrastructure facilities.